efforts of the people of Missouri to enslave the people of Kanasa, and now, as a finale, a charge is preferred against the members of the Constitutional Convention of Kansas, which, if true, proves them unworthy the respect of honorable men, and it is sought to use me, the representative of that people, and the Presideat of that Convention, as an endorser of the charge. I most emphatically deny ever having given to Senster Donglas, or to any other person, even a shadow of authority for making any such statement. The only conversation had with that Senster since my serival in this city, was in presence of Judge Runt of the Supreme Bench of Kansas, now in Ohio, and to him, for decision, I submit this question of ve racity, with confidence in the result.

R is impossible for my tongue to remain silent without being fale to my constituents and to the cause of Iruth. I will not believe that the Constitution of the United States or the rules of the Senate require such a assence from an American citizen. It will be remem bered that I have been regularly elected to a seat in the same body, of which the Senator from Illinois is a member, by a constituency as intelligent as that which he represents; my election and the indorsement of my acts by my constituents being much more recent than those of that Senator.

In defense of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention and the people of Kansas, and in vindication of the truth of history, I do brand the charge, as expressed in the extract above quoted, as untrae, shout a shadew of foundation, and will demonstrate

The proceedings and journal of the Conventions to which I refer, and the proclamations, I pledge myself to produce and publish at an early day; they are now in Kaness, and I have sent for them.

At the Convention held at Big Spring, at which Gov. Reeder was nominated as a Delegate to Congrees, the friends and the opponents of the "Black Law" first made their views manifest. Before the "Committee on Platform" a lengthy and heated debate arose. One portion of the Committee, composed of Judge Collins, (afterward butchered by our Pro-Slavery protectors, Dr. Still, W. Y. Roberts and myself insisting upon inserting a "Black Law" provision in the platform. Another portion, Judge Conway and others opposing it.

The discussion was prolonged for seven hours. At a time when a separation without agreement seemed inevitable, a compromise was proposed by Judge Collins and Dr. Still, expressing an opinion in favor of the exclusion of free blacks, but not insisting upon it as a test of political orthodoxy in the Free-State party. The compromise was adopted by the Committee and concurred in by the Convention by acclamation-they receiving it with nine hearty cheers. The question continued to agitate the public mind, and was discussed before the people throughout the territorythe "Black law" advocates insisting upon inserting the provision in the Constitution; its opponents, respectable as to ability and character, insisting that no action should be taken upon it-the opponents of the Free-State party prophesying that this question would prevent our ever uniting.

To secure that solidarity which has characterized to

an eminent degree the Free State party of Kansas, which I trust will ever be maintained, at the Convention held at Lawrence to nominate candidates for Delegates to the Topeka Convention to frame the Constitution, I submitted the following resolution in sub

Resolved, That the Delegates this day non "Resolved, That the Deligates this day nominated be at they are hereby instructed to use their atmost exertions to prevent the "Black Law" clause being inserted in the Constitution but that the question may be withfrawn from Territoria politics, they will use their indusence to have that question and mitted to the people as a separate proposition—their decision that a instructions upon the first Legislature."

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and all the delegates there nominated were elected, myself among the number, upon the compromise expressed in the resolution.

At the Constitutional Convention I brought forward the same resolution, as information to the Convention of the compromise which had been made in the First District, and submitted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Committee on Miscellaneous Matters be instructed to report to this Convention a plan for submitting to the Feople the question of excluding Free Blacks, their decision to operate as instructions to the first Legislature."

The first resolution was received and ordered to be

spread upon the journals, and the second was unanimously adopted. In obedience thereto, the said Committee, by Dr. Cutler, their Chairman, reported, in substance, as follows: That the Chairman of the Executive Committee be instructed to issue his proclamation inviting the people, upon the day the Constitution is submitted to them, to express their opinion for or against the exclusion of free blacks from the State, as follows: Those in favor casting a ballot upon which is written or printed "exclusion," those against, "no exclusion "-the said vote to act as instruction to the first Legislature-which report was adopted. After the adjournment of the Convention, as Chairman of the Executive Committee I drafted, published and circulated the Proclamation. My recollection now is, that three distinct propositions were submitted; first, the Constitution, second, the Free Banking Law sections submitted as an independent proposition; if adopted, to become a part of the Constitution itself. In the second, the Black Law question was submitted as a separate proposition, to act merely as instructions to members of the first Legislature, having in no wise any connection with or relation to the Constitution.

As a member of the "Black Law" portion of the Free-State party, I aided in making the compromise referred to, the whole object of which was to keep it out of the Constitution, within the reach of the people, so that when a majority should be in favor of repealing or adopting it, they could do so without amending the Constitution or conflicting therewith.

The Constitution presented to the Senate by Gen. Cass, to which the Senator from Illinois refers in the annexed extract, (if the copy forwarded for that purpose, which I have no doubt it is,) is a correct copy of that instrument, as framed by the Convention and ratified by the people; it is not true but a fabrication manufactured from whole cloth, that any portion of it has been suppressed.
Washington City, April 17, 1856. J. H. LANE.

SAFETY ON STEAMBOATS.

SAFETY ON STEAMBOATS.

A Bill further amending an act entitled "An act to amend an "act to provide for the better security of the lives of pass" sengers on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part "by steam, and for other purposes," passed August 30, 1332. Bettemacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled: That steamers used as ferry-boats, and running us such under a charter or license, shall be hereafter subject to the provisions of the Steamboat Law of August 30, 1332, so fir as relates to the employment of licensed pilots and dicrused engineers; and so far as relates to the inspection of their hulls; boilers and machinery, and to similar provisions for the protection of life against accidents by fire and collision, to an extent satisfactory to the Inspectors. They shall also be governed by such rules and regulations for meeting and passing all steamers, and for exhibiting and carrying lights, as shall be prescribed by the Board of Supervisory Inspectors, and such Board of Inspectors shall prepare and issue appropriate certificates of such inspection.

shall prepare and issue appropriate certificates of such inspection.

Sec. 2. And be it further emacted, That steamers used as tug-hosts, tewing-boats, freight-boats and steamers, not exceeding-hosts, tewing-boats freight-boats and steamers, not exceeding one bundred and fifty tuns burden, and used in whole or in part in navigating causis, shall be hereafter subject to the pro-sisions of the steamboat law of August 30, 1852, so far as relates to the employment of hierarchical filters of the steamboat law of August 30, 1852, so far as relates to the employment of hierarchical engineers, and so far as relates to the inspection of their boilers and machinery. They shall so be governed by such rules and regalitions for meeting and passing all steamers, and for exhibiting and carrying lights, as shall be grescribed by the Board of Supervising Inspectors, and each liosed of Inspectors shall prepare and issue appropriate certificates of such inspection, provided, however, that in the inspection of the boilers and machinery, the best pressure to which they shall be subjected shall be at least one-third more than the maximum working pressure allowed.

the best pressure to which they shall be subjected shall be at least one-third more than the maximum working pressure allowed.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That steamers used as ferry bosts, tug bosts, towing bosts, freight bosts, and steamers not exceeding 150 tuns burden and used in whole or in part in navigating canals, shall pay for inspection, in proportion to their tunnage, one half of the fees required from passetger steamers 4; he steamhoat law of August 39, 1852.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That if any of the steam reseals mentioned in the first and second sections of this act shall be savigated without compliance with the terms of said sections, the owners thereof, and the vessel itself shall be subject to the penalties contained in the account of the act of July 7, 1853, and if the master of owner of any such vessel shall full to have a certificate of the inspection required in said sections, compinently placed on board such vessel as is required on board passenger steamers by the twenty fifth section of the act to which this act is an amendment, the or they shall be subject to the penalties contained in said section.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That instead of the axising provisions of law in regard to the stowage and carrying of oil of turpertine and oil of virtuel on board of passenger steamers, hereafter all oil or spirits of turpentine and oil of virtuel may be carried on board such steamers; provided, such oil or apparts of furpentine and oil of virtuel, narie, and other channed acids he put up in vessels well protected from injury, as shall be prastible by the Inspectors, and the whole well and asfels steamed at a secure distance from the boilers, and from all time kept of

board; and every person who shall knowingly violate any of the provisions of this section, shall pay a penalty of \$500 for each offense, to be recovered by action of debt in any Court of com-

board; and every person who shall knowingly violate any of the provisions of this section, shall pay a penalty of \$500 for each oftense, to be recovered by action of debt in any Court of competers jurisdiction.

Suc. 6. And be it further enacted. That hereafter the penalty for the infraction of the seventh section of the Steamboat Law of August 39, 1832, shall be not less than one hundred dollars, and such exceeding one hundred dollars, for each offense.

Suc. 7. And be it further enacted. That every person who shall knowingly effer or deliver for shipment, or who shall attempt to put on board to carry or to be carried on any such steamboat carrying passengers, any gunpowder, oil of vitrol, oil or spirits of turpentine, or other like deargerous articles, contrary to the provisions of the eighth section of the law of August 30, 1852, or the fifth section of the law of August 30, 1852, or the fifth section of this act, shall for every such offense be deemed guilty of misdemeasor, and shall be subject to the penalties presenthed raspectively in such sections.

Suc. 8. And be it further enacted. That hereafter, whenever barges or other craft shall be propelled or towed by a passenger steamer, guspowder shall not be conveyed on board such barges or other craft except with the same precautions and under the same restrictions, and subject to the same penalties as prescribed or such passenger steamer by the Steamboat law of August 39, 1832.

Suc. 8. And be it further enacted, That instead of the existing provisions of law relating to the use of fusible alloys upon high pressure bollers, there shall be substituted fusible plugs or rivets of pure tin, of such dimensions and meertad in such position, as shall be prescribed by the Inspector of such passenger steamer, or any officer thereof, or any other person, shall insertibe, or place, or cause to be inscribed or placed in the wheel-house, pilot-touse, bulwards or say other part of such reason, shall control to the security of life and property, it shall be the control o

sailing with the wind within two points of "dead aft" on either aide.

It shall be the duty of sailing vessels at all times when steamers are meeting or hearing them to keep on their course, and the duty of avoiding collision will devolve upon the steamers.

And it shall be the duty of the owner or master of every flatheat, keel-boat, canal boat, barge, rate, or other river craft exceeding the burden of tea turs, when under weigh or being towed or moored or at anchor, during the night season, on any ravigable stream, river or waters within the United States, to exhibit a bright matter as to show the position of such flat boat, keel-boat, canal boat, barge, raft or other river craft exceeding the burden of ten turs, and if any such owner or master shall neglect to comply with these regulations, he or they shall forfeit and pay for every such offsuse a penalty of fifty dollars; and if by reason of such negligence loss or damage shall court, he or they shall be liable to the injured party for all such loss or damage, and either penalty or damages, or both, may be recovered by action of debt in any Court of competent parisdiction.

Jured party to an such damages, or both, may be recovered by action of debt in any Court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 13. And be it further enacted. That in addition to the nine supervisory Inspectors, the appointment of which is authorized by the eighteenth section of the set of 30th August, 1852, one other of like qualifications shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for the Pacific coast of the United States; provided that this additional supervising Inspector shall not be under obligation to attend the meetings of the Board oftener than once in three years, but shall in the intervals thereof communicate with, in writing, and in all his official acts and proceedings shall be gorcraed by such rules and regulations as may be from time to time established by said Board; and a certified copy of such rules and regulations, and all their proceedings shall be forwarded to him by the Secretary of the said Board. The compensation of such supervising inspector for the Pacific coast shall be three thousand dollars per annum.

SEC. 14. And be it further enacted, That in addition to the recall inspectors for the collection districts named in the mich

three thousand dollars per annum.

SEC. 14. And be if further enacted. That in addition to the iroul inspectors for the collection districts named in the finish section of the act to which this is an amendment, there shall be a Board of Local Inspectors for the District of Oslena, in the State of Illinois; also a Board of Local Inspectors for the District of Oregon City, in the Territory of Oregon; such Inspectors shall be appointed in the same manner and shall have such character and like qualifications and powers, and shall discharge the same duties as is required of the local inspectors now holding supchrimments under the said act. The coursensation for such Inspectors, shall be as hereinafter provided:

SEC. 15. And be it, further enacted, That there shall be an Assistant Inspector of Hulls, and an Assistant Inspector of the appointed in like manner with the local inspectors shall be appointed in like manner with the local inspectors shall be appointed in like manner with the local inspectors. Such Assistant Inspectors shall be governed by the instructions which may be given them from time to time by the Supervising Inspector of the district, in the same manher as required of the local inspectors are supported by the eart of August 30, 1832. The compensation of such Assistant Inspectors shall be as bereinafter provided:

SEC. 16. And be it further enacted, That in case of one of the members of any local Board becoming incapacitated for the performance of his duties by sickness or other cause during the absence of the supervising inspector from the port where such Board is located; also in case a vacancy in a local Board shall occur in consequence of death, resignation, or removal, the remaining inspections; and certificates of such inspections; made out by the remaining member of the Board shall be valid, and of full force and effect, and shall warrant the Collector of other chief officer of Custom

mbensarion, to n	to have onner one merchant	
Treasury, in th	he manner officers of the Re	evenue are paid:
District of Por	tiand	BOOK CACA
District of Bos	ton Board	1,000 each.
District of Nev	w London Board	600 each.
District of Ner	w York Board	2,000 each.
District of Nex	w-York Assistants	1,200 each.
District of Phi	ladelphiaBoard	1,500 each.
District of Rul	timoreBoard	1,500 each.
District of Nor	folkBoard	600 each.
Printerior of Cha	rlestonBoard	600 each.
District of Che	annahBoard	600 each.
District of Sav	w-OrleansBoard	2,400 each.
District of Nev	W-Offeans	1,000 each.
District of Mol	bileBoard	400 each.
District of Cal	vestonBoard	2,500 each.
District of Cal	iforniaBoard	
District of St.	Louis Board	1,800 each.
District of Nas	hvilleBoard	800 esch.
District of Lou	disvilleBoard	1,800 each.
District of Cin	cinnetiBoard	1,800 each.
District of Wh	eeling Board	800 each.
District of Pits	tsburghBoard	1,800 each.
District of Chi-	cagoBoard	800 each.
District of Day	roitBoard	1,200 each.
District of Cla	velandBoard	800 each.
District of Pari	falo Board	1,500 each.
District of Oan	regoBoard	500 eack.
District of Day	lingtonBoard	500 each.
District of Dui	enaBoard	700 each.
District of One	gutBoard	1.200 each.
Transfer Of Chic	A COLUMN TO A COLU	

District of Oregun ... Beard 1, 200 each.

SEC. 13. And be it further enacted. That all penalties inposed by the Steamboat Law of July 7, 1838, or the act amending the same peased August 30, 1832, or any of the acts amending the said act of August 30, 1852, or any of the acts amending the said act of August 30, 1852, or of this act, may be recovered, in an action of debt, by any person who will sue therefor as infermer in any United States Court—one-half of such penalty to be for the use and benefit of the informer—provided, however, that the person or persons so informing shall not be implicated or interested, directly or indirectly, by collision or otherwise, in the violation by which such penalty shall be incurred—and the other half to the use of the United States; or the said spenalty or penalties may be prosecuted for by indicting

not be implicated or interested, directly or indirectly, by collusion or otherwise, in the violation by which such pennity shall be incurred—and the other half to the use of the United States; or the said penalty or penalties may be prosecuted for by indictinent in either of said Courts; and any suit which shall be commenced in consequence of information given by any supervising Inspector, or otherwise, shall be brought by the proper officer in the name of the United States.

SEC. 19. And be it further eisected. That any supervising or local inspector shall have power to issue summonases for witnesses to come before such inspector and testify in any mater before him; also to issue any process and compel the attendance of persons upon whom such summons or process is served, by similar procedure in courts of law, and may appoint any suitable person to serve the same; and the chief officer of Custems of the district in which the same shall be issued shall pay the expenses attending such service out of the revenues, provided in the act to which this is an amendment, and such expenses shall be certified by the inspector before whom the case shall be beard; in which such summons or process shall be issued, but in no case shall acceed the rates allowed in similar cases in the Circuit and District Courts of the United States. It shall be the duty of the District Attorney, in person, or by some one designated by him to advise the linspectors, and to attend and nid them in any official hearing, trial, or examination occurring within his district upon a request so to do by written notice from such Inspector.

Sec. 20. And be it further, enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Collector or other chief officer of Customs in pack collection to administer the necessary official onths to the Inspectors also, in districts where there are no local boards, to pilots of the services and duties required from Collectors or other chief officers of Customs by the provisions of the set to which this is an amendment and of this act, s

such provisions the sum of one cours and my dear the such the paid out of the revenues provided in the act to which this is an amondar ent.

Sec. 22. And be it further enacted, that if any licensed pilot or engineer shall, on investigation, be found guilty of any voicing of the provisions of this set, or the act to which this is an amendment, and be subjected to a penalty therefor, but shall driay or refuse to pay the same, the supervising inspector may, upon satisfactory evidence that the circumstances attending such delay or refusal are of such a character as to warrant him in so doing, suspend or ervoke the license of such pilot or engineer until such the he paid.

Sec. 13. And he it further enacted, that hatesid of the existing provisions of law is regard to the reports of local inspectors as eeffect in the fourteenth clause of the night section, and in the thirty second section of the act to which this is an amendment, such reports shall be made to the expecting inspector of the district haveal of the chief officer of the customs, and the most such reports shall be made annually at such time as the board of supervising inspector amy direct; and inseed of the existing provisions of the weatty-third section of the act to which this is an amendment, and the supervision is such that the mede shall be made by the collectors of other chief differers of customs to each other, the report three in the quirted shall be made without delay by each local board of inspectors to other local boards of inspectors in such matner as may be peas rabed by the supervisian board.

thirty-fifth section of the act, to which this is an amendment, shall not apply to passenger steamers the route of which shall not exceed a distance of thirty miles; but it shall be the duty of the masters of all passenger steamers to keep a correct account of the number of passongers carried, and to furnish a correct account master refusing to furnish such cony shall for ett and pay one hundred do lars, which penalty shall be a lian upon the vessel.

Sec 25. And be it further enacted. That every captuin, empirect, pilot, or other person employed on board of any steambest or vessel propelled in whole or in part by steam, by whose misconduct, negligence or instreation to the or thosi respective duties, the life or lives of any person or persons may be destroyed, shall be deemed guilty of manisanghter, and, upon conviction thereof before any Circuit Court of the United States, shall be sentenced to confinement as hard labor for a period of not less than twelve mouths and not more than ten years.

Sec. 25. And be it further enected. That the Board of Supervising inspectors shall keep a record of all their official acts or dera and regulations, and shall transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury a certified copy of all proceedings at their annual and special meetings, and make to him their annual report on or before the 20th day of October in each year, and report to him all such other facts, information or opinions, as may be deemed useful for the faithful administration of the law.

Sec. 27. And be it further enacted. That so much of the act of July 7, 1838, as relates to the appointment of Steamhost Inspectors, their qualifications and duties, is hereby repealed, and all laws or parts of laws heretofore made, which are suspended by, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this act, are hereby

THE LATEST NEWS.

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON, Friday, April 18, 1856. A letter from California states that the delegates from that State to the Cincinnati Convention have in-etructions to urge the nomination of Ex-Senator Gwin for Vice-President on the ticket with Mr. Buchanan for President

for President.

The Senate to day ratified the treaty with the Stockbridge Indians.

XXXIVTH CONGRESS PIRST SESSION.

SENATE....Washington, April 18.

On motion of Mr. SEWARD a resolution was adopted directing the Committee on Post-Offices to inquire into the expediency of establishing uniformity of postage throughout the United States.

inquire into the expediency of establishing uniformity of postage throughout the United States. On motion of Mr. SUMNER a resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Patents to consider the expediency of amending the Patent laws so far as to allow the inhabitants of neighboring British Provinces to enjoy the benefits of these laws on an equal feoting in all respects with the people of the United States.

the bill to authorize the Executive to facilitate the

The bill to authorize the Executive to facilitate the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Mississippi River to the Pacific was considered.

Mr. WELLER maintained that the Government has the constitutional power to construct military and other roads through the territorics of the United States. Congress frequently makes appropriations of lands for such purposes. Three hundred and forty thousand dollars, he said, had been expended to procure reporter and surveys, which show that there are three or four practicable railroad routes to the Pacific. He had no preference for either; his main desire was to obtain the construction of a road, from which branches would emanate as the necessities of commerce demanded. the construction of a road, from which branches would emanate as the necessities of commerce demanded. The Committee having the subject in charge pro-pose that the Secretary of War, Secretary of the Interior and Postmaster General shall advertise for bids, with authority, under direction of the President, to select the one post favorable. According to bito select the one most favorable. According to his calculation, the money invested in such a work would yield thirteen per cent per annum. Estimating the number of passengers back and forth at 60,000 yearly, the decrease in time for teach will be considered. number of passengers back and form at 0,000 years,
the decrease in time for travel will amount to a saving
of more than \$11,000,000 per annum. He exhibited
the great mineral wealth of California and the extensiveness of the Pacific coast, arguing the pressing necessity for such a road for purposes of commerce as
well as the protection and maintenance of the Union.

Mr. SEWARD obtained the floor, and the further consideration of the bill was postponed to the 29th last. Sixteen private bills passed. Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. HAVEN submitted two letters addressed by the Secretary of the Navy to Mr. Benson, Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, in which he invites members of Congress to visit the war steamer Merrimac, at Annapole, saying that the President and himself expect to leave Washington for that city this affairs, in the same of the correct of the control o

self expect to leave Washington for that city this atternoon, and will wait the arrival there of to-morrow morning's train before going to the steamer.

The Committee on Elections reported against the right of Bird C. Chapman to retain his seat as Delegate from Nebracka Territory, and in favor of Mr. Hiram P. Bennett.

The Judiciary Appropriation bill was considered without final action. without final action.

Mr. WASHBURN (Ill.) moved that when the House adjourn it be till Monday. Adopted. Adjourned.

THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT. Toronto, Friday, April 18, 1856, In Parliament, yesterday morning, the permanent seat of government was fixed at Quebec.

ATTEMPT TO THROW A TRAIN OFF THE

ALBANY, Friday, April 18, 1856. An attempt was made last night to throw the Boston Express train from the track near Port Chester, on the New-York and New-Haven Railroad, by removing the New-York and New-Haven Rairoad, by removing the pilot of the engine. Its loss was discovered in time to prevent a serious catastrophe. On the night previous, near the same place, a large rock was placed between the rails and heavy sleepers spiked across the track. The Port Chester special train barely escaped.

UNITED STATES SUBREME COURT. Washington, Friday, April 18, 1856.
No. 90. Joshua R. Stanford, plaintfff, vs. Clay Taylor. Argued by the Hon. Reverdy Johnson for the

Diantiff,
No. 91. Adam Ogilvie, et al., complainant, vs. Knox
Insurance Company, et al. Submitted on the record,
and printed arguments by Mr. Judah for complainants
and Mr. Crawford for defendants.

ACCIDENT TO A CHILD. New-Orleans, Friday, April 18, 1856.
A son of Mr. George H. Brown, carver, about ten years old, while playing near the ledge of the East Rock this morning, fell about half way down. He is shockingly mangled, but may live. The ledges are about 80 feet high.

BURNING OF A FLOURING MILL. Boston, Friday, April 18, 1856.
The extensive Flouring Mill of R. W. Hyde & Co., in this city, was nearly destroyed by fire this morning, together with the machinery and stock. Fully in-

MARINE DISASTER. Long Branch, Friday, April 18, 1856.

A schooner, name unknown, capsized off Long
Branch this afternoon, and her crew had barely time to save themselves by rowing to the pilot boat No. 19, which was near. They have since left for the city. The schooner's masts are about six feet out of water.

OPENING OF THE ERIE CANAL.

OPENING OF THE ERIE CANAL.
BUFFALO, Friday, April 18, 1854.
Commissioner Whallon and Superintendent Seymour
commenced yesterday a tour of inspection along the
line of the canal from Buffalo to Albany. They will
ascertain its condition, and fix the time for letting in

LAKE NAVIGATION.
CHICAGO, Thursday, April 17, 1856.
Lake Michigan is about clear of ice. Steamers commenced daily trips between Chicago and Milwaukee on Tuesday last.
CHICAGO, Friday, April 18, 1856.
The Straits of Mackinae, (connecting Lake Huron and Lake Michigan,) are still closed.
Tolebo, Friday, April 18, 1856.
Boats are running regularly between here and Detroit. LAKE NAVIGATION.

NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE. NAVIGATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.
MOSTREAL, Friday, April 18, 1856.
The river has risen very high. The ice has broken
up, but is lammed at Long Point. Steamers commence running on Monday from Brockville to Kingston.

CALIFORNIA OLIVES -It is said that the olive trewill flourish in all but the mountainous parts of Califormia, as well as the oak Indeed it is certain that the Missionaries had a great many olive trees growing in their gardens. At Lan Louis Obispe, there are some very large olive-trees growing upon the old Mission-

The value of the olive crop in Italy, Spain, Palestine, and other Mediterranean countries, is enormous, and the importations into this country of the fruit and oil is so large, that it should stimulate California farmers to obtain a share of the trade of an article that can can be so easily produced upon the singularly productive soil of that State.

MEXICO.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

Mexico, Saturday, April 5, 1856. As was to be expected the Government succeeded in its attack on the City of Puebla, and the reactionists in that city surrendered on the 23d inst. There were about 3,000 men and 600 officers of all grades taken prisoners. Haro y Tamariz, Güitian, and two or three of the other principals in this revolt took refuge in flight before the capitulation, and will doubtless bide their time for a future attempt at power. All the wounded have been pardoned, the soldiers incorporated into the regular army, and the 600 officers have been reduced to the ranks in the same; and in punishment of their crime have been sentenced to serve for from one to three years as common soldiers. The chiefs, if taken, are to be adjudged by the law of 1853, which condemns all such to be shot.

Thus this chapter of civil war, murder, robberry, &c., on the part of the conservative faction has ended, and there will now be time to look around and examine into the state of the, wreck caused by nearly three years of constant intestine commetion and civil strife. The condition of things is truly bad enough, and it is to be hoped that the Government, supported by the most enlightened of public opinion, will be enabled to stand firmly by the principles proclaimed at first by it, and carry out the reforms proposed, and so long—so urgently—demanded for the welfare and happiness of this unfortunate country.

To those interested in Mexican affairs, who will take the trouble to recall to mind the events deviced in the second of the secon

tailed in my letters for the past year, it will be unnecessary to say more than what has already been said. They will see to what a wretched condition the country has been reduced, and conceive the arduous task before the present Administration, if it intend and have the talent (the latter, I fear, it has not) to elevate itself by taking the lead in crushing out the old abuses and prejudices which have held Mexico in a state of ignominious bondage till the present time. The impetuosity of the Liberal party, there is not much doubt, has received a check in Comonfort, but it may be for the best. He is not all now. The Convention, now in session here (or Constituent Congress, as it is called), is now the body to whom we are to look to see the amount of progress made by Mexico. and for the promulgation and extension of liberal principles. It is easy to perceive now that the President acts in concert with the wishes of the Convention, and it may be safely inferred that he undertakes nothing but at its suggestion, or what

undertakes nothing but at its suggestion, or what he is assured it will approve. The Siglo states that "The President has issued a decree ordering that all the Church property belonging to the Diocese of Puebla shall be placed under the charge or supervision of the General Government," and that "with one part of that property the nation is to be indemnified for the great expenses of the war caused by the reactionists, the citizens of Puebla are to be indemnified out of the same for all losses suffered by them during the siege of that city, and a pension is also to be bestowed out of it on the widows and orphane caused by the said war."

This act of the President is applauded by the Siglo, and it remarks that:

This act of the President is applauded by the Siglo, and it remarks that:

"It is evident that the clergy of Puebla have been the agent and the sustainer of the rebellion there; that the first movements in it were not censured by the Bishop of that diocese; that one of the curates after having caused the interdiction to be rung, to cause a rising of his parishioners against the Government, was rewarded by the said Bishop with the Rectorate of the Sceninario; that the Bishop aided Haro y Tamiria with means; that the religious exercises in Puebla were converted into rebellious focuses, the citizens immediately on leaving the churches going and enlisting in the files of the rebels; and that the convents distributed crosses, medals and relies to the soldiers of Haro without being even censured by the Bishop, and now let the clergy suffer for their criminal conduct."

"The clergy of Puebla have shown themselves un worthy to administer the property of the Church. This property was, in their hands, an element of anarchy—a fountain of evils. The Government have done well in interfering in respect to it, and it is in conformity with justice that with this property the country and individuals be indemnified, and aid extended to the unfortunate families, the innocent victims of this civil war."—(alluding to the affair of Puebla).

The same paper says much more, but with the

The same paper says much more, but with the foregoing quotation you will have a sufficiently clear idea of the state of feeling on the subject of this seizure of the Church's property.

The fortifications in the streets of this city are

being demolished, and great preparations have been making for several days past to give the President a magnificent reception on his return from the present campaign. This took place on the 3d instant, and the reception was splendid, though he was required in allows. though he was received in sience by the multi-tude-but this indicates nothing more than their usual indifference. The public buildings of the city were brilliantly illuminated in the evening, as also the private houses very generally. A party took place at the palace, and for two days afterward the rejoicing was more or less kept up.
After all, it would have been as well had the
President persevered in the manifestation of the
good taste he at first displayed in not permitting any of the usual rejoicing at the victories gained in his expedition against Puebla. He then said: Let there be no rejoicings, for every success in the expense of the blood of our countrymen, or words to that effect. But in departing from

or words to that effect. But in departing from this good taste he yielded to others.

I look forward with a degree of interest for the is-uing of the new constitution, as upon that will depend, in a great measure, the future peace of Mexico. Degollado, Governor of Jallico, Gen. Alvarez, Vidaurri, and Barcura, (the latter Governor of Durango,) have full sway over their own received and influence over some of their neighbors. people, and influence over some of their neighbors, and coalitions have been in some instances already formed, and others in part entered into among them; and should the constitution not meet their views they will most probably not join the family compact. These governors are plain, honest men, who have voluntarily promised liberal institutions to the people they govern; they possess their ut-most confidence, and will not submit, it is be-lieved, to anything but what shall be as liberal as has been announced by the plan of Ayutla. Should this constitution be in accordance therewith, and no humbuggery, we may look forward for domestic peace and quiet for several years to come; if not, the States, I believe, will divide. The Convention has done nothing since last

dates, at least publicly, but to discuss a proposi-tion to ratify at once the law of Juarez, which suppresses the military and ecclesiastical privilege in civil matters. I think this law will be ratified nem. con. A case under the above mentioned law is now in progress in the city of Oaxaca. A Judge in that city proceeded to hear a cause for debt against a religious institution there, and he was notified by the Bishop of that State to suspend his proceedings until the President should decide in regard to the protest that the said Bishop had made against that law under which the Judge was The Judge refused, alleging that the law had been officially promulgated, was a law of the land, and it was not for him to suspend any pro-ceeding under it. The Bishop then protested against the Judge's proceedings, and the matter is

taking its due course.

A disturbance has lately taken place at Sonora Not long since Gandara, the Governor, resigned his post, and the general Government appointed Jose de Aguilar as Governor, and Pedro Espejo as Commander General. This, it is alleged displeased Gandara, and his friends the Council of Government, and he would not deliver up the command to the newly appointed officials, but by means of a pronunciamiento, resumed it himself in February last, on the ground that the Government appointments were displeasing to the people of the State, and it was declared that Sonora should be governed by its own organic State law, till the general Government re-resolve the matter. At the time of this revolt all the Government money was taken illegally from the Custom-House at Guaymas, together with the portion appropri-

on the 9th inst. Senor Barcens took possession of the Government of the State of Durango amid great rejoicings of the inhabitants of that capital. One of his first acts was the official promulgation in that State of the general law suppressing the privileges of the military and the clergy. The State Government is composed of the following persons: Governor, Barcena; Secretary of State, José M. Fernandez; Council, Anto. M. Esparza, J. M. del Regatt, Carlos Lodora, Ferdo. Guerrero,

J. M. Ledoza.

Saltillo and Ramon Arispe, the two towns denied incorporation by Vidaurri into the States of
Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, have named their respective political authorities, and Delegates to the present Convention, and have had to set up on

their own account as free towns.

We have had no correspondence regularly from
the United States via Vera Cruz for about two The decree banishing or interdicting the return

of Messrs. Barron and Forbes to Tepic, in virtue of the petition to that effect by residents of that place, has not yet been revoked. It is alleged that the Governor of that State and the people of Tepic proceeded from malicious motives in this affair, and without any foundation whatever for going so far, which may be the case, and strong measures are being taken by this house to bring the parties who have accused the same to punishment, and the latter will of course make as strong an effort to justify themselves. The Government has interfered in respect to a judicial proceeding touching a part of this business, which is looked upon as despotic, namely: one of the signers of the petition for banishment came here, and legal proceedings were instituted against him by the principal of the house, for defamation in signing that document, but the President ordered the Judge to suspend all proceedings against the accused, stating that it was a case for the Government to decide,

it. This interference on the part of the Executive with the Judiciary power is held to be oppressive and beyond precedent.

Gen. Gadsden, our Minister, has purchased a small parcel of land, two or three miles distant from the city, where he spends most of his time. Consequently we see very little of him in town

THE NEW MORMON STATE.

On the 18th of January a District Convention was held at Covo, in Beaver County, Utah, to take into consideration the propriety of a General Convention some time during the Spring to form a constitution and plan of State Government for the Territory. Del egates were present from several counties, some of them having come one hundred and fifty miles. No roof in the place was large enough to shelter the crowd, and they met in a grove near by. Col. W. H. Dame presided.

The Hon. G. A. Smith spoke strongly in favor o the proposed Convention. He alluded to the immens change which had been effected in the condition of the country since its colonization and said that Judge W. W. Drummond estimated the population of the territory at 100,000. Nowhere else was there to be found a population who understood so well the principles of self-government, who made better laws, or who were so united in carrying them into execution. They glo ried in the extent and power of their country and they adnired and would sustain to the last its Constitution which was formed by the inspiration of God. [Cries of "Long live the Constitution."]
The Hon. Jesse N. Smith of Parowan City coincided

in the remarks of Mr. Smith. The estimate of population he thought nearly correct. Their election return did not make a very imposing appearance, but he attributed this to the fact that their political areas was always quiet and undisturbed by the squabbles which agitate parties in other States. Judge Lee, of Washington County, as one of th

pioneers of civilization in the Southern portion of the Territory, was deeply sensible of their present position Many cases were continually arising from their inter course with the Savages waich required the speedy and effective arm of a State Government. They had carned the right to make their own laws and choose their own rulers.

Messrs, Philip R. Smith, T. Lewis of Iron, W Bateman of Cedar, C. W. Dolton of Harmony, J Hatch of Santa Clara, Carlos Shirts of Hanarrah, James McGuffee of Parowan, Hon. J. C. Haight of Cedar, and several citizens of Beaver County addressed the meeting to the same purpose. Resolutions were passed approving the action of the Legislature in passing acts preparatory to calling a Constitutional Convention, and delegates were appointed for the Counties of Iron, Beaver and Washington to the Constitutional Convention.

The following resolution will give some idea of the

estimation in which Federal officers are held in Utah estimation in which Federal officers are held in Utan:

"Resolved. That we, as a people, appreciate the inconveniences arising from the appointment of Federal officers by the General Government, who generally have no interest in the country, and whose only recommendation is the fact of their having performed some degrading political service or pertickery in some other country, and whose only anxiety is to fill their own pockets, promote their own ease and comfort, regardless of the results of their own official binners, or criminal neglect to the it habitants of the Territory." The Convention closed with a Ball.

FROM KANSAS.

Fxtract of a letter from a physician now in Kansas to his mother and sister in this city: "We need health and strength to battle with circumstances that sickness and the Pro-Slavery men of Missouri, and that traitor to Humanity, Justice, and

Liberty, Frank Pierce, have placed us in; but, fortunately, the hearts of those who come and are coming have within them the spirit of '76. And while the men are willing and ready to sacrifice their lives rather than submit to the tyranny imposed upon them by a bend of outlaws, and sanctioned by their accomplice, the women are not idle. Practicing at the target and running bullets are amusements in which they delight, and in the dark hour of trial, like the women of the Revolution, they will not be found wanting.

"I saw a man yesterday who saw the Surveyor General, who says the Land Sale will take place in June next, and preemptions are included in that sale. He is a Pro-Slavery man, a son of the late John C. Calhoun. The sale is probably hastened to subserve the ends of speculators, and will, if done, cause the loss of three fourths of the settlers' claims. The horrible Winter and sickness, with loss of crops, have rendered them unprepared to pay for their claims so soon. God only knows what the future will bring forth. On that day every cent will be drawn from Kansas to pay for land, and hundreds of dollars lost by the hardy settlers in improvements, which will pass off into the hands of speculators, who will be as thick as frogs on Pharaoh's table. Give my thanks to Mr. B. for the seeds he has so

kindly sent. Tell him that his wish shall be fulfilledthey shall be planted in Free soil "

FROM BUENOS AYRES.

By the arrival at this port yesterday of the bark J. T. Hodge, we are put in possession of advices from Buenes Ayres to March 1. We are indebted to Messrs. W. W. DeForest & Co. for files to that date. The news is not important, politically or commercial-

ly. The British Packet says the aspect of public sffairs still remains lowering. The dangers from the Pampa Indians and the difficulties with the Argentine Confederation seriously affect all interests, the disastrous consequences being increased by the jealousies and bickerings constantly going on among the citizens of Buenos Ayres.

The difficulties with the Argentine Confederation,

arising out of the invasion of the Territory of Santa Fe, have been aggravated by a warlike proclamation from the Buenes Ayrean General Urquiza.

Troops have been sent to punish Indian depredations n the southern and western frontiers.

The following retrospect of business, &c., for the month of February, is condensed from The British Packet of March 1:

Packet of March 1:

"Considering the state of political excitement in which we have been throughout the whole month, the wender is that we have anything deserving the name of commerce or business to think or talk about. "In the department of manufactured goods the chief demand has been for the local market—less than a fair average in ordinary times, but more than we

Prices have not tailled, nor do we see any likelihood of their doirg so for some time to come. Outstandings are got in very slowly, but there have been no failures of any importance; and upon the whole, we consider the state of the local market sounder than it was, say a twelvementh ago.

"For the sister Provinces of the Confederation'the demand has been very limited; and nothing else could be expected, considering the untoward state of our po-

be expected, considering the untoward state of our po-

be expected, considering the untoward state of our political relations.

"The arrivals during the month (February) have been more moderate than in that of Jaouary. A glutted market is a present and positive evil.

"The arrivals from the United States and the Mediterranean bave also been more moderate than in the preceding month; but the general market is abundantly supplied, and prices in general lave been maintained with comparatively slight variations.

"Yerba, Paraguay tobacco and rice have all shown a downward tendency, while sugar and coffee, on the contrary, are browant. The rise in sugar may perhaps be ascribed in part to an artificial scarcity created by private speculation.

centrary, are buoyant. The rise in sugar may perbaps be ascribed in part to an artificial scarcity created by private speculation.

"The results of the harvest must now be decided. It is taken for granted to be deficient.

"Export Produce.—A number of causes have concurred to give a lively impulse to our saladeros during the month under review. The oldest inhabitant cannot recollect a season equal to the present. Owing to the seasonable rains the fields have been clothed with verdant pasture, even during the scorching months of our protracted Summer, and the herds have rarely been seen in such splendid condition. The saladeristas, therefore, can afford to pay a high price; and it will unquestionably be found that the quantity both of Beef and Tallow is far above an ordinary average, even in proportion to the number of animals slaughtered.

"Another cause is the felt insecurity of our rural establishments, which has compelled many to kill off even breeding stock, that no other consideration could have induced them to part with.

"Of Wools a large proportion has already been despatched; and on this occasion they that sold early in the season have fared the best. For ordinary and low qualities prices have declined, say 25, perhaps 30 per cent, from what they would have brought in October or November."

Mentevideo.—A very exciting Presidential contest is going on for the Presidency, and assumes some of

and the Judge accordingly withheld himself from

the aspects of a convass in the United States. It is generally believed Schor Percyra will be successful, The election was to be held on the 1st of March. Nothing else of importance.

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TERRIBLE AFFRAY IN THE SIXTH

A MAN SHOT-SUPPOSED TO BE FATALLY INJURED-ARREST. An affray occurred last evening at No. 41 Elm street,

between Guido Fassula and Antonia Mondell, Italians, who roomed together at that place, which resulted in the latter being shot in such a fearful manner that his life is despaired of. From what could be ascertained, it would seem that the parties had quarreled about their domestic affairs, and resolved to separate -each taking ore half of the furniture in their apartments, which they had purchased together. Before separating, however, for the night, the altercation was renewed, at which time both had revolvers in their possession, and by some means Mondell was shot through the stomach-the ball lodging in his back. A second discharge of the pistol hurled a ball through the face-mangling him horribly. He fell to the floor immediately, the blood flowing profusely from his wounds, and in a few moments he was almost insen-

spot, and conveyed the injured man to the New-York Hospital. Policeman Judge of the same District arrested Fessule, who stands charged with shooting his room mate. He was taken to the lock-up and detained for the night. The prisoner says that the pistol, when fired off, was in Mondell's hands, and that he, (M.), in attempting to discharge it, fired the coutents of two barrels into his own body by accident. Whether this is so, remains to be proved. From what could be gathered from Mondell, it would appear that the pistol was in the hands of the prisoner at the time of its discharge.

Mondell was in such a critical state late last night, that Coroner Connery was sent for to take his dying declaration. It is hardly possible for him to survive.

DYING DEPOSITION.

Coroner Connery, on being notified of the affair, immediately proceeded to the Hospital to take the dying deposition of the wounded man. Captain Dowling of the Sixth Ward, with two or three of his officers, was present with the prisoner. Through an interpreter Mondell made the following deposition:

Mondell made the following deposition:

Antonia Mondell being duly sworn, deposes and says—I live at No. 41 Elm street; Guidona Fassula is the name of the man with whom I had the quarrei; we lived together one year; to-day about 12 o'clock Mr. Fassula removed his things from the house; in the removal of which a dispute arose respecting the stove in our room; we both walked up-stairs together at about 60 clock; Mr. Fassula kept a pistol in his pocket; the dispute about the stove arose as to who should have the stove, or what amount of money should be paid for the possession of it; I told Fassula he could not have the stove for nothing. I told him if he wanted the stove I would let him have it for \$3. We had a dispute upon this, ard commenced quarreling. We quarreled, and then the pistol went off, and we both fell down stairs. We never before had a contention, more than a few warm words. I identify Guidona Fassula, now present, as the man who fired the pistol at me.

ANTONIA X MONDELL. Sworn before me this 19th day of April, EDW. D. CONNERY, Coroner.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

SECOND NIGHT OF THE NEW SEASON. A crowded and brilliant audience attended the Academy of Music last night-giving evidence, we trust, that New-York is fully roused to the lyrical duty of making another effort to support that great establishment. The opera of Il Trovatore has in its latter scenes enough of Verdi's genius—of his special vigor, passion, and directness—to commend it to the public, and embalm it in bright musical memories. Though the first part of the opera flags, there are portions, as the plot thickens, which are splendid. Of the execution we have little to say which is new. The opera-going world already knows Mme. La Grange's high artistic success in the soprano character-above all, in the last act. The part of Signora Aldini was nicely done. M. Bolcioni was unequal-his intonation being uncertain at times. M. Coletti, the new basso, is a careful artist. M. Amodio was affected, it would seem, with a cold-easily apparent in his very loud, pure, and fine voice. The orchestra began indifferently, but bettered as it went along. It is now to be decided whether the public wants an

opera and an Academy of Music. Spasmodic attendance cannot answer; of this audiences must be finally aware. Shall the Academy succeed? That's the

The third of Miss Eloise Bridges's and Mr. W. M. Fleming's drawing-room entertainments will be given at the Hope Chapel to night. The selections are musical and poetical-from prime composers, poets and dramatists.

FIRES.

FIRE IN STANTON STREET-MAN RILLED. Last night about 11 o'clock a fire broke out in the printing ink manufactory of John McCreary, Nos. 331 and 333 Stanton street, but being discovered at an early moment, the flames were soon extinguished.

Loss about \$50. An old man, as yet unknown, was run over near the fire by one of the engines and almost

instantly killed. His body was taken to the Thirteenth Ward Station-House, where an inquest will be held to-day by one of the Coroners. FIRE IN NORTH WILLIAM STREET, About 12 o'clock last night a fire occurred in a dweling-house in North William street, near Pearl, in consequence of the burning out of a sooty chimney.

Damage slight. No slarm was rung by the bella. DAMAGES RECOVERED.—A suit for libel, brought by the Rev. James Naylor, a Prochytarian minister, against Dr. T. J. Garden, in the Circuit Court of Charlotte County, Va., was last week decided in favor of the plaintiff, and \$2,000 damages awarded him.